

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATION AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1412
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019
SHIFTING OF CULTIVATION TOWARDS CASH CROPS

1412. SHRI DILIP PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether farmers are shifting from cultivation of oilseeds and pulses to cotton and maize and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this shift towards cash crops is because of lower MSPs of oilseeds and pulses in the mandis, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) if so, the plans of the Government to control this migration which may result in scarcity of oilseeds and pulses; and
- (d) the details regarding rejuvenation of the National Food Security Mission and the National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): No, Madam. There is no evidence of farmers shifting from oilseeds and pulses to cotton and maize. Most of the area of oilseeds and pulses are cultivated under rainfed conditions. Therefore, the area under oilseeds fluctuates due to shortage of moisture, prolonged dry spells and less rainfall. Area under oilseeds is stagnating between 24 to 26 million hectares annually while, pulses area has shown an increasing trend as per details given below:

(Million hectare)

Year	Oilseeds	Pulses	Cotton	Maize
2014-15	25.60	23.55	12.82	9.19
2015-15	26.09	24.91	12.29	8.81
2016-17	26.17	29.45	10.83	9.63
2017-18*	24.65	29.99	12.43	9.47

*4th Advance Estimates of DES, DAC&FW

The area under cotton is stagnant at about 12 million hectares and of maize at 9 million hectares over the last four years.

(b) & (c): Does not arise.

(d): National Food Security Mission (NFSM) was launched in the year 2007 has been re-vamped with effect from 2018-19.

National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) has now been subsumed in NFSM as NFSM-Oilseeds and Oil Palm from 2018-19.

Currently, NFSM has eight components viz (i) NFSM-Rice, (ii) NFSM-Wheat, (iii) NFSM-Pulses, (iv) NFSM-Coarse Cereals (Maize, Barley), (v) NFSM-Sub Mission on Nutri Cereals, (vi) NFSM-Commercial Crops, (vii) NFSM-Oilseeds and Oil Palm and (viii) NFSM-Seed Village Programme. The pattern of assistance of the interventions have been revised especially on demonstrations, purchase of breeder seeds, production of foundation & certified seeds and distribution of certified seeds of different crops. Seed Hubs and Breeder Seed programme on pulses, oilseeds and nutri cereals have been included. The re-vamped guidelines of NFSM are under implementation since 2018-19.
